

CONFIGURATION OF OVERHEAD CHANNELS IN A MIXED BANDWIDTH SYSTEM

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

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I. Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to communications. More particularly, the present invention relates to a novel and improved method and apparatus for transmitting and receiving broadcast information in a multi-carrier CDMA communication system.

II. Description of the Related Art

15 The use of code division multiple access (CDMA) modulation techniques is one of several techniques for facilitating communications in which a large number of system users are present. Other multiple access communication system techniques, such as time division multiple access (TDMA) and frequency division multiple access (FDMA) are known in the art. However, the spread spectrum modulation technique of CDMA has significant advantages over these modulation techniques for multiple access communication systems. The use of CDMA techniques in a multiple access communication system is disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 4,901,307, entitled "SPREAD SPECTRUM MULTIPLE ACCESS COMMUNICATION SYSTEM USING SATELLITE OR
20 TERRESTRIAL REPEATERS", assigned to the assignee of the present invention, of which the disclosure thereof is incorporated by reference herein. The use of CDMA techniques in a multiple access communication system is further disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 5,103,459, entitled "SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR GENERATING SIGNAL WAVEFORMS IN A CDMA CELLULAR
25 TELEPHONE SYSTEM", assigned to the assignee of the present invention, of which the disclosure thereof is incorporated by reference herein. CDMA has been standardized by the Telecommunications Industry Association in Interim Standards IS-95A and IS-95B, entitled "Mobile Station-Base Station Compatibility Standard for Dual Mode Spread Spectrum Systems" (referred to hereafter collectively as IS-95).

INS #
35 In IS-95 communications systems channels of information transmitted from a common base station are distinguished from one another by orthogonal spreading codes. Each channel is spread by a unique orthogonal spreading sequence. The channels that are transmitted by an IS-95 base station include, a

- pilot channel, a sync channel, at least one paging channel and dedicated traffic channels. The pilot channels is used to provide a phase reference for coherent demodulation of the other channels by mobile stations within the coverage area of the base station. The sync channel carries overhead information such as timing information, pilot PN offset information and other information that allows the reception of the other overhead channels. The paging channel notifies mobile stations of mobile terminated calls directed to the mobile station in the area. Dedicated traffic channels provide information directed to the user of a specific mobile station in the coverage area of the base station.
- 10 In IS-95, when the base station sends a *Sync Channel Message*, it shall uses the fixed-length message format of Table 1 below:

TABLE 1

Field	Length (bits)
MSG_TYPE ('00000001')	8
P_REV	8
MIN_P_REV	8
SID	15
NID	16
PILOT_PN	9
LC_STATE	42
SYS_TIME	36
LP_SEC	8
LTM_OFF	6
DAYLT	1
PRAT	2
CDMA_FREQ	11

- 15 MSG_TYPE Message type.
- P_REV Protocol revision level.
- MIN_P_REV Minimum protocol revision level. The base station sets this field to prevent mobile stations which cannot be supported by the base station from accessing the system.
- 20 SID System identification. The base station shall set this field to the system identification number for this system.

	NID	Network identification. This field serves as a sub-identifier of a system as defined by the owner of the SID.
	PILOT_PN	Pilot PN sequence offset index. The base station shall set this field to the pilot PN sequence offset for this base station, in units of 64 PN chips.
5	LC_STATE	Long code state. The base station shall set this field to the long code state at the time given by the SYS_TIME field of this message.
10	SYS_TIME	System time. The base station shall set this field to the System Time as of four Sync Channel super frames (320 ms) after the end of the last super frame containing any part of this <i>Sync Channel Message</i> , minus the pilot PN sequence offset, in units of 80 ms.
15	LP_SEC	The number of leap seconds that have occurred since the start of System Time.
	LTM_OFF	Offset of local time from System Time. The base station shall set this field to the two's complement offset of local time from System Time, in units of 30 minutes.
20	DAYLT	Daylight savings time indicator. If daylight savings time is in effect, the base station shall set this field to '1'; otherwise, the base station shall set this field to '0'.
25	PRAT	Paging Channel data rate. The base station shall set this field to the PRAT field value shown in Table 2 corresponding to the data rate used by the Paging Channels in the system.

TABLE 2. Paging Channel Data Rate

PRAT Field (binary)	Paging Channel data rate
00	9600 bps
01	4800 bps
10	Reserved
11	Reserved

30	CDMA_FREQ	Frequency assignment. The base station shall set this field to the CDMA Channel number corresponding to the CDMA frequency assignment for the CDMA Channel containing a Primary Paging Channel.
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In IS-95 systems, each base station transmits a pilot channel that is covered only by a short PN sequence. In IS-95 systems, the short PN sequence

repeats once every 26ms. The pilot signal transmissions from each base station are distinguished from one another by a phase offset with respect to one another. In particular, there each base station associated with a single base station controller differs in phase by at least 64 PN chips.

5 Under normal operation, the mobile station acquires the pilot signal first. The pilot signal carries no data and is simply the all ones sequence spread by the common short code, which also spreads all of the other channels transmitted by the base station. After acquiring the pilot channel, the mobile station receives the information described above from the sync channel. The
10 frame and interleaver timing on the sync channel are aligned with the pilot PN sequence. The zero state of the short PN sequence marks the starting point of the sync channel frame and interleaver.

In the U.S. Personal Communication System (PCS) spectrum, the CDMA channel number N specifies the carrier frequencies of the forward and reverse
15 link channels. In particular, channel number N corresponds to a reverse link carrier frequency of $(1850 + 0.05N)$ MHz and a forward link carrier frequency of $(1930 + 0.05N)$ MHz, where N ranges from 0 to 1199. The bandwidth of each CDMA channel is 1.25 MHz. Therefore, the channel numbers of adjacent CDMA channels are different by at least 25 (25×0.05 MHz = 1.25 MHz). To
20 facilitate mobile stations' initial acquisition, certain carrier frequencies are designated as the preferred frequency assignments. Referring to FIG. 1, for an IS-95B CDMA system in the A block of PCS band, the channel numbers of the preferred frequency assignments are 25, 50, 75, 100, 125, 150, 175, 200, 225, 250, and 275. Mobile stations will search the preferred frequency assignments first
25 upon powering up.

The International Telecommunications Union recently requested the submission of proposed methods for providing high rate data and high-quality speech services over wireless communication channels. A first of these proposals was issued by the Telecommunications Industry Association, entitled
30 "The cdma2000 ITU-R RTT Candidate Submission" (hereafter cdma2000). cdma2000 proposes increasing the throughput of the forward link signals by transmitting portions of the information on three bands, each of 1.2288 MHz. This method is described as the "multi-carrier" approach.

A multi-carrier CDMA system, that uses three adjacent 1.25 MHz RF
35 channels with channel spacing also equal to 1.25 MHz is defined in cdma2000. Referring to FIG. 2, a multi-carrier CDMA system in the A block of the PCS band can be deployed with the center channel on channel 50, 75, 100, 125, 150, 175, 200, 225, or 250. Channels 50 and 250 are usually avoided to avoid interference to adjacent bands on the reverse link. In the proposed cdma2000


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description, the reverse link may be direct-spread with a chip rate of 3.6864 Mcps, which makes the emission limit requirements more difficult to meet than for a chip rate of 1.2288 Mcps.

5 A mobile station, upon powering up, searches for pilot signal on a preferred frequency. If no pilot is found in the current channel, it changes its channel and searches again. Once a pilot is acquired, the mobile station demodulates the Sync Channel associated with that pilot to receive timing information, pilot PN offset, and other information enabling its reception of the other overhead channels.

10 In a multi-carrier approach, one method for providing Sync Channel data would be to tri-partition the Sync Channel message and place one third of the message on each of the three portions of the multi-carrier signal. If the Sync Channel of a multi-carrier system is spread over three channels, the mobile station will have to know the exact channels used by the system in order to
15 demodulate the Sync Channel reliably. Since the exact channels are not known in advance, the mobile station has to try numerous combinations to receive the Sync Channel message. Given the number of preferred channels, the time spent on such trials could be excessive and therefore degrade the mobile station's initial acquisition time. Therefore, there is a need felt in the art for a
20 method that minimizes the mobile station's search time.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

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25  The present invention is a novel and improved method and apparatus for transmitting broadcast information in a multi-carrier communication system. The proposed invention is to send the Sync Channel of the multi-carrier system in a 1.25 MHz channel bandwidth (i.e., over a single carrier), and to specify the preferred channels for the Sync Channel transmission instead of the preferred channels for the entire multi-carrier system. The Sync Channel
30 Message will indicate the center frequency for a mutli-carrier system in the band if one exists and the frequency of a single band system if one exists.

1N5 H⁴  Considering the A block of the PCS band again, the preferred channels for Sync Channel transmission can be selected as channels 75, 150 and 225. This selection ensures that one of the preferred channels will always be used by any
35 multi-carrier system regardless the location of its center channel. The mobile station, upon powering up, searches on the preferred channels for Sync Channel first. Once the pilot signal is acquired on any of these channels, the mobile station demodulates the Sync Channel on the channel as well. The mobile station learns from the Sync Channel Message the location of a

multicarrier and a single carrier system in the band if either exists. It can be easily observed that the number of channels to search and the number of hypotheses to try are significantly reduced by using the proposal in this disclosure. As a result, it improves the mobile station's initial acquisition time.

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BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The features, objects, and advantages of the present invention will become more apparent from the detailed description set forth below when taken in conjunction with the drawings in which like reference characters identify correspondingly throughout and wherein:

FIG. 1 is an illustrative band diagram for a PCS system for 1x communications systems;

FIG. 2 is an illustrative band diagram for a PCS system for 3x communications systems;

FIG. 3 is a flowchart illustrating the acquisition method of the present invention;

FIG. 4 is a block diagram illustrating the major elements in a wireless communications system;

FIG. 5 is a simplified block diagram of a multi-carrier transmission system;

FIG. 6 is a block diagram of CDMA modulation system;

FIG. 7 is a simplified block diagram of a multi-carrier receiver system; and

FIG. 8 is a block diagram of a CDMA demodulation system.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

FIG. 1 illustrates a typical band diagram for a multi-band communications system. In currently contemplated wireless communications systems, mobile station that is attempting to begin service will tune to each possible frequency in a preferred set of frequencies and determine whether a system is available at that frequency. In FIG. 1, the channel numbers of the preferred frequency assignments are 25, 50, 75, 100, 125, 150, 175, 200, 225, 250, and 275, which corresponds to bands 200a, 200b, 200c, 200d, 200e, 200f, 200g, 200h, 200i, 200j and 200k. In the exemplary embodiment, each of these bands is 1.25Mhz wide and is used to carry an IS-95 CDMA transmissions.

FIG. 2 illustrates the possible center bands of a three component multi-carrier communication system as is contemplated in cdma2000 (also referred to as IS-2000). In the multi-carrier communication system, the mobile station tunes to each possible grouping of three adjacent channels and attempts to receive the Sync Channel message. In the current designs for multi-carrier systems the Sync Channel message will be divided into three component parts with each component part transmitted separately and simultaneously on a different carrier of the multi-carrier band. The mobile station first attempts to receive the Sync Channel message on a multi carrier system comprising bands 300b, 300c, 300d. If unsuccessful, the mobile station then attempts to acquire the Sync Channel on a multi-carrier system consisting of bands 300c, 300d, and 300e. This continues for each possible three band system until the mobile station checks for a multi-carrier system consisting of bands 300h, 300i and 300j. For reasons described above, in the exemplary embodiment, bands 300a and 300k will not be used in a multi carrier system.

This method of receiving the Sync Channel message is very inefficient and time consuming. If a mobile station is capable of operating in a multi-carrier or single carrier mode, the mobile station will potentially have to conduct eleven 1x searches or bands 200a-200k and seven multi-carrier searches using center frequencies 300c-300i. In a CDMA communication system, each band searched requires the mobile station to test a large number of PN offsets to detect the presence of the pilot signal. Thus, this method of acquisition requires a substantial time period.

The present invention provides a significantly more efficient method for acquiring the necessary system parameters in a potentially mixed bandwidth communication system. In the present invention, the Sync Channel is always transmitted in a 1x band. In the preferred embodiment, the preferred channels are channels 75, 150 and 225. Thus, a mobile station need only conduct at most three searches to receive the Synch Channel message in 1x bandwidth in order to acquire the necessary information for acquisition of its preferred system. The present invention greatly reduces acquisition time in a mixed bandwidth communication system. In addition, by providing the Sync Channel message only on the preferred channels reduces the capacity impact of providing that overhead messaging on many more channels.

The reason for the allocation of the preferred channels of the present invention is that it provides the greatest flexibility in the provision of a multi-carrier system. With the allocation of the preferred channels to channel numbers 75, 150 and 220 (300c, 300f and 300j), a multi-carrier system provided anywhere in the band consisting of bands 300a-300k will include one of the

preferred channels. A multi-carrier system comprising the bands 300a, 300b and 300c will include the preferred channel 300c. A multi-carrier system comprising the bands 300b, 300c and 300d will include the preferred channel of 300c. A multi-carrier system comprising the bands of 300c, 300d and 300e will include the preferred channel of 300c. A multi-carrier system comprising the bands of 300d, 300e and 300f will include the preferred channel of 300f. Any combinations of three adjacent bands will include a preferred channel upon which the mobile station will be able to receive the necessary system parameters for operation.

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10 In the present invention, the mobile station tunes to a preferred channel (300c, 300f or 300i) and attempts to detect a pilot signal on that frequency band. If a pilot signal is detected the mobile station, receives demodulates and decodes the Sync Channel message. In the present invention, the Sync Channel message will provide information that identifies the center frequency of a multi-carrier system in the current set of frequency bands (if one exists) and the frequency of a 1x band in the current set of frequency bands (if one exists).

15 The mobile station in response to the information received in the Sync Channel selects the system that is appropriate for its needs or capabilities. If the mobile station prefers to use a multi-carrier system, the mobile station uses the center frequency of the multi-carrier system indicated in the Sync Channel message to tune to the multi-carrier system and receive the broadcast channel (BCH) message. The broadcast channel message will indicate to the mobile station the number of common control channels (CCCHs) that are employed by the current system. The mobile station takes the number of common control channels and using a predetermined hashing algorithm determines what code channel it will use to receive page messages from the transmitting base station.

INS A⁷
20 If the mobile station selects to operate in a single band system, the mobile station uses the information received in the Sync Channel message to tune to the appropriate frequency of the single band system. The mobile station then receives the general paging channel message on the primary paging channel. The general paging channel message provides the number of paging channels used by the single band system. The mobile station uses a predetermine hashing function to determine the code channel upon which the mobile station will receive paging message for the transmitting base station.

INS A⁸
35 The present invention is equally applicable to systems that may include 3X direct spread communications systems. In this embodiment, the Sync Channel message would include the addition information whether the 3X system is a direct spread system or a multi-carrier system. In addition, the Sync Channel message may also provide information respect whether the system

uses a form of diversity transmission such as orthogonal transmit diversity (OTD). If methods of transmission diversity are possible in the multiple bandwidth communication system, specification of the means of transmit diversity greatly reduces the number of hypotheses that must be tested to
5 acquire a system.

These changes to the Sync Channel messages can be accommodated without necessitating the extension of the Sync Channel message used in IS-95B and illustrated above. In the current Sync Channel message there a large number of reserved bits that can be used to provide the additional information.

145 A?
 10 FIG. 3 is a flowchart illustrating the acquisition operation of the present invention. In block 2, the mobile station tunes to a preferred channel (300c, 300f or 300i). It will be understood that the present invention is disclosed in context of the PCS band of frequencies and can easily be extended to other bands such as the cellular band. Moreover, the selected set of preferred channels though
15 preferred for three carrier, multi-carrier communications systems would be different for multi-carrier systems with a different number of carriers.

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20 In block 6, the mobile station determines whether the search operation was successful. In the exemplary embodiment, the present invention is incorporated into a CDMA communications system, though the present invention would be equally applicable to other mixed bandwidth communications systems. In the exemplary embodiment, the mobile station tunes its RF receiver to a preferred channel (300c, 300f, or 300i) and attempts to detect the presence of a pilot signal. In the exemplary embodiment of an IS-95 based CDMA communications system, each base station transmits its pilot
25 signal using a unique pilot signal offset. Thus, the mobile station after tuning to a preferred channel (300c, 300f, or 300i), searches the possible PN offset hypotheses.

30 The method and apparatus for detecting a pilot signal in a CDMA communication system are well known in the art and are described in detail in U.S. Patent No. 5,644,591, entitled "Method And Apparatus For Performing Search Acquisition In A CDMA Communication System", which is assigned to the assignee of the present invention and incorporated by reference herein. The mobile station tests each PN offset hypothesis by computing the correlation between the received signal within the preferred frequency band with the PN
35 hypothesis being tested. If the correlation energy for all PN hypotheses is less than a threshold value, then the acquisition at the preferred frequency is not successful and the operation moves to block 4. In block 4, the next preferred channel (300c, 300f, or 300i) to be tested by the mobile station is selected and the flow moves to block 2 and continues as described.

signal 32 to mobile station 40. Mobile station 40 transmits reverse link signal 34 to base station 30.

11/5 A¹¹
 5 FIG. 5 is simplified block diagram illustrating the exemplary embodiment of base 30 as multi-carrier CDMA transmission system with three forward link channels. Each of transmission subsystems 48 transmits a portion of forward link signal 32 on a different carrier frequency. Transmission subsystem 48a transmits a portion of forward link signal 32 on frequency f_1 , transmission subsystem 48b transmits a portion of forward link signal 32 on frequency f_2 , and transmission subsystem 48c transmits a portion of forward link signal 32 on frequency f_3 .

11/5 A¹²
 10 The data for transmission on forward link signal 32 is provided to de-multiplexer 50. De-multiplexer 50 provides the data to one of the three transmission subsystems 48. The present invention is described in term of a three carrier multi-carrier communication system because three IS-95 carriers each occupying 1.2288 MHz can fit into a 5MHz band. However, it will be understood by one skilled in the art that the teachings of the present invention can easily be extended to an arbitrary number of channels in a multi-carrier system.

11/5 A¹³
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 20 The de-multiplexed data streams are provided to modulators 52. In the exemplary embodiment, modulators 52 modulate the forward link data in accordance with a CDMA modulation format such as that described in the IS-95 standard and described in detail in the aforementioned U.S. Patent No. 5,103,459. The forward link data includes dedicated channel data that is for provision to a specific mobile station and broadcast channel data that is for provision to all mobile stations in the coverage area of base station 30 or a subset of mobile stations 30 in the coverage area of base station 30. The Sync Channel message is an example of broadcast data that is transmitted to all mobile stations in the coverage area of base station 30. In the present invention, the Synch Channel message is provided to a designated one of transmission subsystems 48 for transmission on a designated one of the three carriers.

25 The modulated forward link data from modulators 52 is provided to up converter 54. Up converter 54 up converts the modulated signal to a carrier frequency (f_1 , f_2 , or f_3) that is generated by a local oscillator (not shown). The up converted signals are then combined for transmission through antenna 56.

35 FIG. 6 illustrates the exemplary embodiment of modulators 52 which modulate a portion of the forward link signal for transmission on a single carrier of forward link signal 32. In the exemplary embodiment, a pilot signal is transmitted to allow for coherent demodulation of the signal by the receivers, which improves the performance of the receiver by providing a phase reference

for demodulation. A set of pilot symbols known to both base station 30 and mobile station 40 are provided to Walsh spreader 60. Walsh spreader 60 spreads the pilot symbols by a Walsh sequence W_{pilot} . In the exemplary embodiment, Walsh sequences are used to distinguish the channels of the data transmitted on a single CDMA carrier. The Walsh function can be either of a fixed number of symbols as is described in the IS-95 specification or it can be an orthogonal function that varies in length in accordance with the rate of the data to be transmitted on the channel as is described in the cdma2000 proposal and in U.S. Patent No. 5,751,761, entitled "System and Method for Orthogonal Spread Spectrum Sequence Generation in Variable Data Rate Systems", which is assigned to the assignee of the present invention and incorporated by reference herein.

The Walsh spread pilot symbols are provided to complex PN spreader 62. Complex PN spreader 62 spreads the Walsh spread pilot symbols in accordance with two separately generated pseudonoise (PN) sequences, PN_I and PN_Q . If the two inputs to complex PN spreader 62 are designated as I and Q, the result of the complex spreading operation are two channels I' and Q' given by the equations:

$$I' = PN_I I - PN_Q Q \quad (1)$$

$$Q' = PN_Q I + PN_I Q. \quad (2)$$

The purpose of the complex PN spreading is to more evenly distribute the loading on the in-phase and quadrature channels of the QPSK modulator, which results in a reduction of the peak to average ratio on the power amplifier (not shown) of base station 30 which in turn increases the capacity of base station 30. Complex PN spreading is described in the cdma2000 RTT proposal and is described in detail in copending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/886,604, entitled "High Data Rate CDMA Wireless Communication System", which is assigned to the assignee of the present invention and is incorporated by reference herein. The complex PN spread pilot symbols are provided to transmitter (TMTR) 94, which up converts, filters and amplifies the signal for transmission through antenna 56.

In the exemplary embodiment, the Sync Channel message is distinguished from other channels of information by being spread by a unique orthogonal spreading sequence W_{sync} . In the preferred embodiment of the present invention, the sync channel message is only transmitted by a selected one of modulators 48a, 48b or 48c. The selected modulator 48 transmits the Sync Channel message on a preferred channel. In the exemplary embodiment,

the Sync Channel message indicates the center frequency of a multi-carrier system in the current band of frequencies, in one exists and the frequency of a single carrier system in the current set of frequency bands if one exists.

INS A¹⁵
 5 The Sync Channel message is provided to message formatter 64. In the exemplary embodiment, message formatter 64 generates a set of cyclic redundancy check (CRC) bits and an optional set of tail bits and appends those bits to the Sync Channel message. IS-95 systems do not append tail bits to the Sync Channel message. cdma2000 (also referred to as IS-2000) systems append eight tail bits to the Sync Channel message. The Sync channel message
 10 with the CRC bits and tails bits appended are provided to encoder 66. Encoder 66 encodes the sync channel message, CRC bits and tail bits in accordance with a predetermined forward error correction coding algorithm such as convolutional coding.

The encoded symbols are then provided to interleaver (INT) 68 which
 15 reorders the encoded symbols in accordance with a predetermined interleaving format. The interleaver is provided to provide time diversity in the transmitted stream of encoded symbols. Decoders have better error correction performance when the errors in the received stream are not burst errors.

INS A¹⁶
 20 The reordered symbols are provided to Walsh spreader 70 which spreads the reordered symbols in accordance with a predetermined code sequence W_{sync} . In the exemplary embodiment, W_{sync} is a code sequence that is orthogonal to all other code sequences used to channelized the channels of forward link signal 32. The Walsh spread signal is then provided to complex PN spreader 62 and is spread as described above.

INS A¹⁷
 25 Common channel messages are transmitted to all subscriber stations or sets of subscriber stations within the coverage area of base station 30. Examples of common channel messages include paging messages that alert mobile station of incoming calls and control channel messages that provide necessary control information to mobile stations in the coverage area of base station 30. For
 30 illustration purposes a single control channel is shown. It will be understood by one skilled in the art that in practical implementations a plurality of control channels will be transmitted a base station 30.

INS A¹⁸
 35 The Common Channel message is provided to message formatter 74. In the exemplary embodiment, message formatter 74 generates a set of cyclic redundancy check (CRC) bits and a set of tail bits and appends those bits to the Common Channel message. The Common Channel message with the CRC bits and tails bits appended are provided to encoder 76. Encoder 76 encodes the Common Channel message, CRC bits and tail bits in accordance with a

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INS A⁷⁰

Turning to FIG. 7, a simplified multi-carrier receiver which in the exemplary embodiment is provided in mobile station 40 is illustrated. In the exemplary embodiment, mobile station 40 is capable of simultaneously receiving forward link signals 32 transmitted on up to three carrier channels. It

will be understood by one skilled in the art that the present invention can be extended to multi-carrier reception of an arbitrary number of channels. The received signal is provided to each of receive subsystems 105 which down convert and demodulate a different component of forward link signal 32 in accordance with a unique carrier frequency.

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The forward link signal 32 is received at antenna 100 and provided to receivers 102. Each of receivers 102a, 102b and 102c down convert, filter and amplify the received signal in accordance with a different frequency f_1 , f_2 , or f_3 , respectively. The down converted signals are provided to demodulators 104. In the exemplary embodiment, demodulators 104 demodulated each of the down converted signals in accordance with a code division multiple access (CDMA) modulation format. The implementation of demodulators 104 are described in detail in the aforementioned U.S. Patent No. 5,103,459. The demodulated components of forward link signal 32 are provided to multiplexer (MUX) 106 which re-assembles the transmitted data stream.

In the present invention, mobile station 40 initially only uses a single receiver 102 and demodulator 104. Mobile station 40 tunes a selected receivers 102 to a preferred channel (300c, 300f or 300i) and attempts to acquire the pilot signal at the preferred channel frequency using a corresponding one of demodulators 104. If sufficient correlation energy is detected, the acquisition is declared to be successful. The mobile station then still only down converting at the single frequency, demodulates, de-interleaves and decodes the Sync Channel message. From the Sync Channel message, mobile station 40 determines the center frequency of a multi-carrier system in the current frequency bands, if one exists, and the frequency of a single carrier system in the current frequency bands, if one exists.

Mobile station 40 decides whether, it will operate in a multi-carrier mode or a single carrier mode. If mobile station 40 decides to operate in a multi-carrier mode, then mobile station 40 activates the RF circuitry additional receivers 102, tuning to the appropriate set of frequencies indicated in the Sync Channel message and begins to receive the forward link signal on a plurality of carrier frequencies. If mobile station 40 decides to operate in a single-carrier mode, then mobile station 40 tunes to the appropriate frequency indicated in the Sync Channel message and begins to receive the forward link signal on a single carrier frequency band.

FIG. 8 illustrates the apparatus to receive forward link signal 32 in the exemplary embodiment of a CDMA communication system. Initially, mobile station 40 must tune to a preferred channel and attempt to acquire the pilot signal of that channel in the following manner.

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The previous description of the preferred embodiments is provided to enable any person skilled in the art to make or use the present invention. The various modifications to these embodiments will be readily apparent to those

skilled in the art, and the generic principles defined herein may be applied to other embodiments without the use of the inventive faculty. Thus, the present invention is not intended to be limited to the embodiments shown herein but is to be accorded the widest scope consistent with the principles and novel
5 features disclosed herein.

I CLAIM:

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